

galerie **leonard
& bina
ellen**
art gallery

INTERACTIONS - Aug. 30-Oct. 27, 2012



Installation view of *Interactions*. Photo: Paul Litherland

EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING YEAR 2012-2013

Exhibition Title: *INTERACTIONS*

Curator: Mélanie Rainville, Max Stern Curator

Artists: Bertille Bak, Olivia Boudreau, Louis-Philippe Côté, Rachel Echenberg, Erin Gee, Nelson Henricks, John Massey, Thérèse Mastroiacovo, Alana Riley, Jana Sterbak, Sharif Waked, Hong-Kai Wang

Participants: Rose-Marie Arbour, Olivier Asselin, Guylaine Beaudry, Anne Bérubé, Claude R. Blouin, Nicole Burisch, Kevin Calixte, Adam Cantor, Professor Norman Cornett, Timothy Dallett, Louise Dandurand, Denise Desautels, Martin Dicaire, Jason Friedman, Amelia Jones, Stéphanie Julien, Tania Laliberté, Nicole Lattuca, Marc James Léger, Fabien Loszach, François Morelli, Claude Poissant, Eduardo Ralickas, Anil Ramcharand, Raymond Saint-Pierre, Cheryl Sim, Dominique Sirois-Rouleau, Erandy Vergara Vargas, Anne Whitelaw, Ida Zhang

Exhibition Dates: August 30-October 27, 2012

Opening: August 29, 2012, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

EXHIBITION DESCRIPTION

As part of its special anniversary activities, the Gallery launched a new season with the group exhibition *INTERACTIONS*. Presenting an array of local and international artworks—some of which were featured in its collection, *INTERACTIONS* highlighted the various ways in which the public may access, experience, and understand contemporary artworks.

Featuring a wide range of artistic approaches and mediums—from video and sound installation to drawing and painting, *INTERACTIONS* explored the constantly shifting relationship between art and viewer. It raised such questions on the reception of artworks as: What is our relationship to contemporary artworks, and how do we interpret them? Are we able to grasp their meaning quickly and directly? What impact do they have on our way of understanding and reflecting on the world around us? In this way, we are invited to consider the infinite number of responses that a contemporary artwork could potentially provoke.

INTERACTIONS used innovative curatorial strategies that nuanced our understanding of the reception and interpretation of contemporary art. Artworks were exhibited in conjunction with one written and two verbal responses (on video) to these works by numerous participants from various backgrounds. Finally, with the goal of bringing to the fore some of the issues surrounding the reception of contemporary art, *INTERACTIONS* presented a selection of documents on various controversies that have arisen in Québec and Canadian art contexts.

LIST OF WORKS

Bertille Bak

Safeguard emergency light system, 2010

Video installation, sound

7 min.

Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Xippas



Olivia Boudreau

Box, 2009

Video installation, sound

22 hours

Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University. Purchase, 2011



*This video installation was presented in collaboration with the Webster Library near the library's entrance.

Erin Gee

Formants, 2008

Fiberglass, plexiglas, hair, copper, wood, electronic components

Vocalists: Lynn Channing and Christina Willatt

Made with the support of Soil Digital Media Suite

Courtesy of the artist



Nelson Henricks

Les sirènes, 2008

Video installation, sound

16 min.

Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University. Purchase, 2011

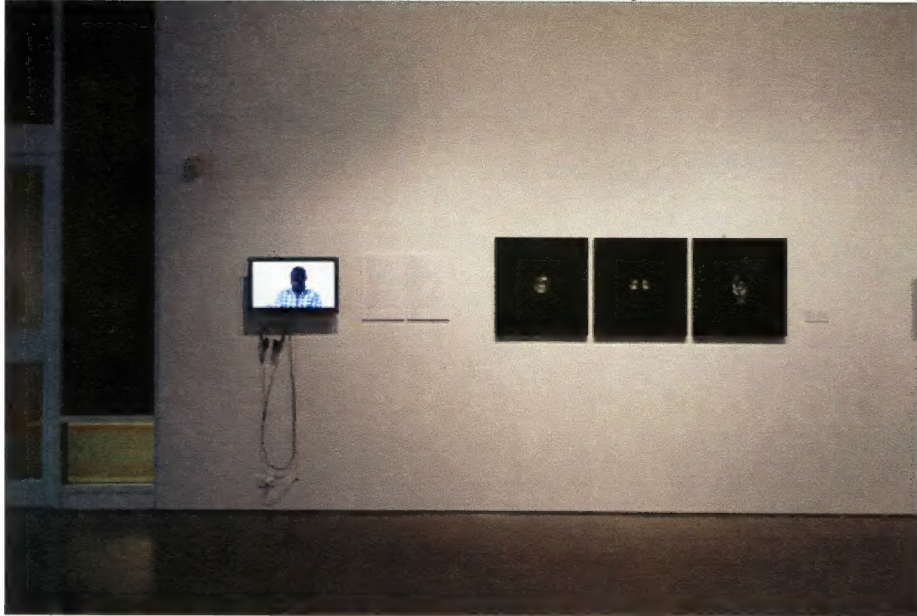


John Massey

Three Eyes, 1992

Silver prints, cardboard

Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University. Purchase, 1994



Sharif Waked

To Be Continued, 2009

Installation vidéo, son / Video installation, sound

41 min. 33 sec.

Courtesy of the artist



Thérèse Mastroiacovo

Art Now (L'Art en Flandre, Aujourd'hui/Art in Flanders, Now, 1992), 2006

Art Now (The Arts under Socialism, Being a Lecture Given to the Fabian Society with a Postscript on What the Government Should Do for the Arts Here and Now, 1947), 2006

Art Now (L'art d'aujourd'hui et son public, 1967), 2007

Art Now (Montréal Painting Now = Peinture montréalaise actuelle, 1982), 2007

Art Now (Spanish Art Now, 1966), 2007

Art Now (To Be Continued: An Exhibition of the Museum Collection, Now and in Prospect, 1960), 2007

Art Now (Art Now, 2005), 2008

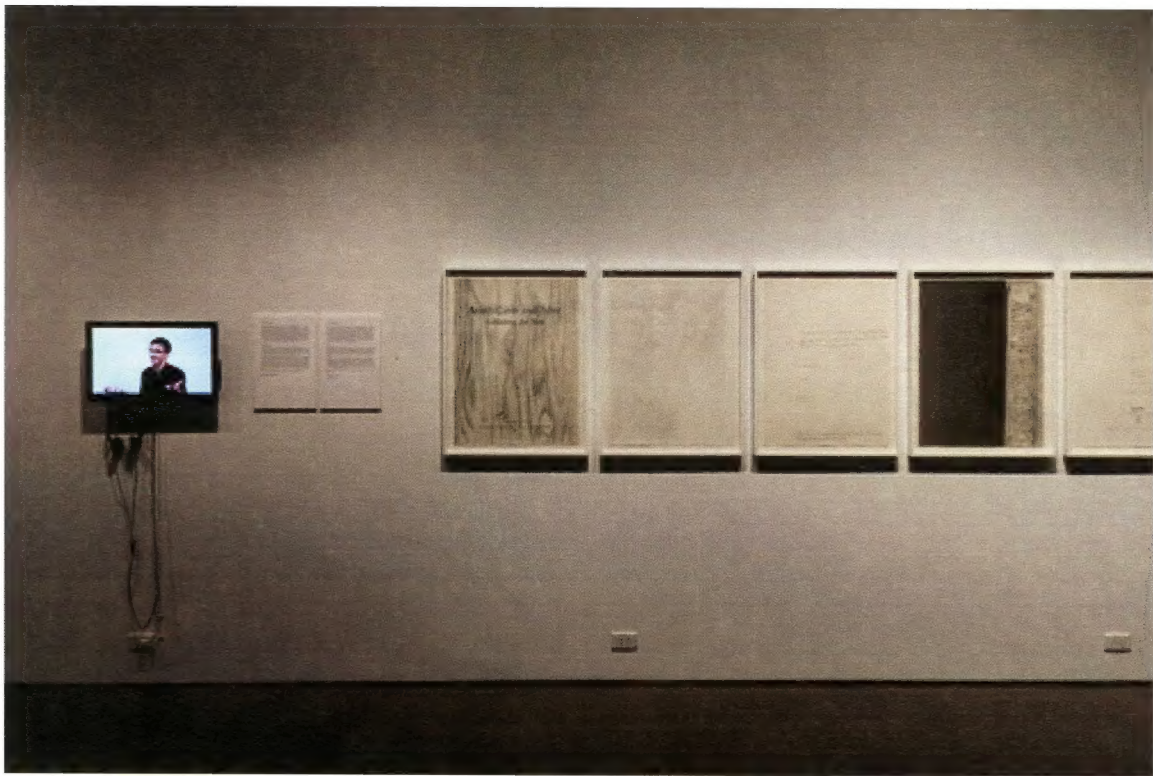
Art Now (Art Futures: Student Art Now, 1983), 2009

Art Now (Art Now: An Introduction to the Theory of Modern Painting and Sculpture, 1933), 2010

Art Now (Avant-Garde and After: Rethinking Art Now, 1995), 2010

Graphite on paper

Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University. Purchase, 2011

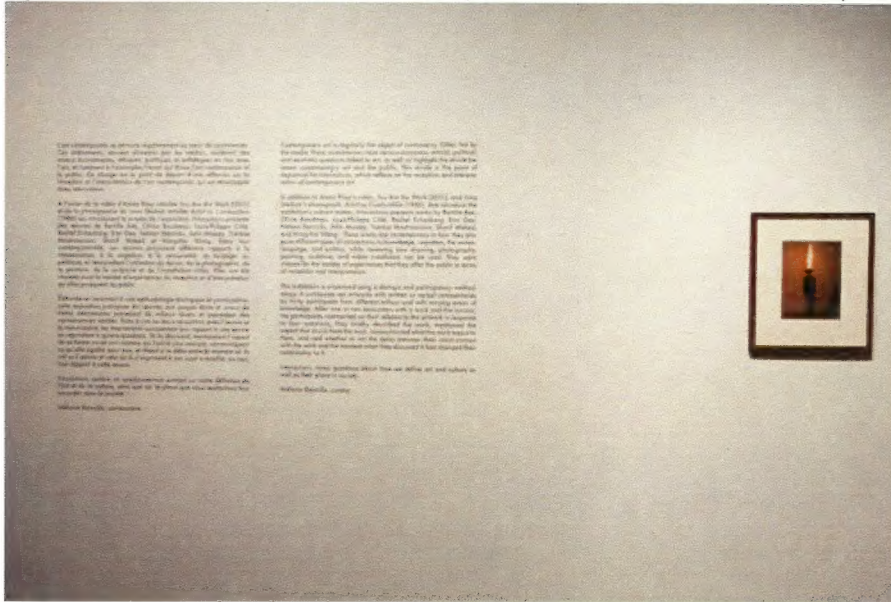


Jana Sterbak

Artist as Combustible, 1986

Colour photograph

Collection of the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University. Purchase –
Special Purchase Assistance Grant, Canada Council for the Arts, 2002



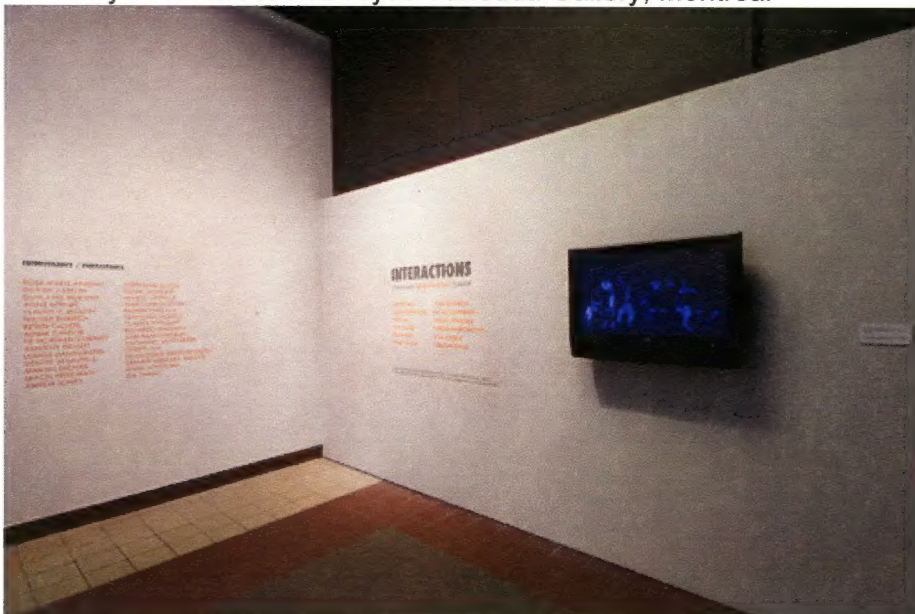
Alana Riley

You Are The Work (Asking Strangers to Sit Through John Baldessari's "Six Colorful Inside Jobs"), 2011

Video

32 min / 32 min.

Courtesy of the artist and Joyce Yahouda Gallery, Montréal



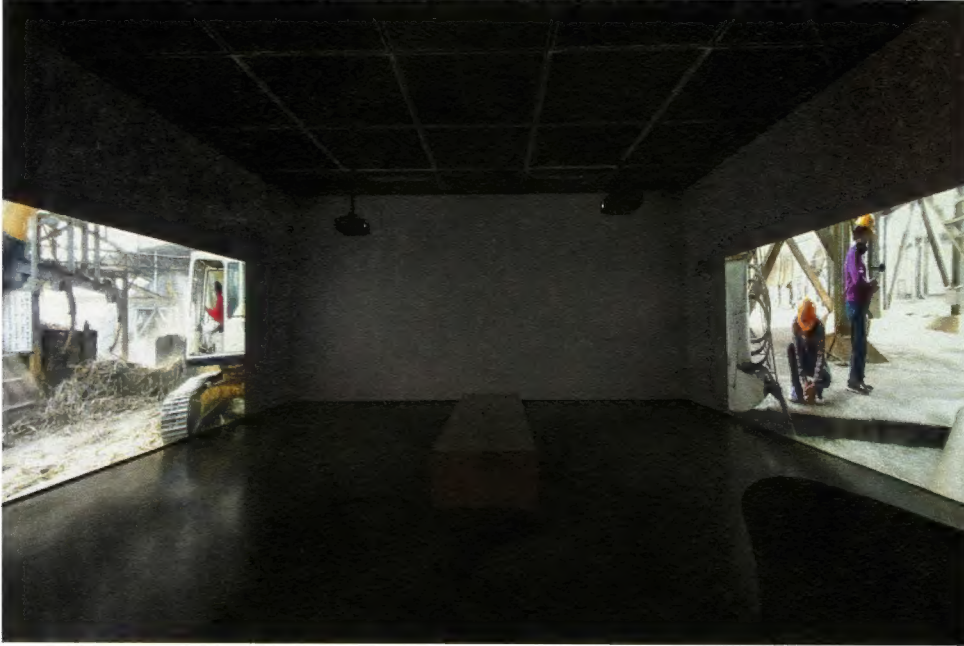
Hong-Kai Wang

Music While We Work, 2011

Double channel video installation, sound

39 min. 15 sec.

Avec l'aimable permission de l'artiste / Courtesy of the artist



Hong-Kai Wang

Music While We Work (Making Of), 2011

Video, sound

31 min. 57 sec.

Courtesy of the artist



Louis-Philippe Côté

Égérie, 2008-2011

Transpolitique (L'abattoir virtuel comme machine de guerre), 2009

Ton rêve d'anarchie, 2011-2012

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist



Rachel Echenberg

Documentation of the performance *Riez III*, 2012, presented during the opening of *Interactions* on August 29. Produced with the support of the Ellen Gallery.



NB: All artworks were presented in conjunction with a written response and two interviews to the work except for Jana Sterbak's and Alana Riley's works that were presented respectively on the presentation wall and with the didactic text.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS / SPECIAL EVENTS:

As part of *INTERACTIONS* and thanks to a special collaboration with the Webster Library, Olivia Boudreau's *Box* was presented in the Library entrance for the duration of the exhibition.

August 29 at 5:30: *Riez*, performance by Rachel Echenberg during the opening of *INTERACTIONS*. Video documentation of the presentation was added to the exhibition.

August 30 at 4 pm: Artist talk by Hong Kai Wang

PUBLICATIONS

A brochure featuring a bilingual curatorial text by Mélanie Rainville was available to the public.

PRESS REVIEW

Marie-Ève Charron, "Art contemporain – Enquête sur la reception de l'art," *Le Devoir* (December 8, 2012)

<http://www.ledevoir.com/culture/arts-visuels/358717/art-contemporain-enquete-sur-la-reception-de-l-art>

"Galleries et centres d'artistes – Portés par l'engagement et les échanges," *Le Devoir*, (August 25, 2012).

<http://www.ledevoir.com/culture/arts-visuels/357666/portes-par-l-engagement-et-les-echanges>

Tristan Malavoy-Racine, "Qu'est-ce que tu vois, toi?" *Voir Montréal* (October 4, 2012).

<http://voir.ca/arts-visuels/2012/10/04/galerie-leonard-bina-ellen-quest-ce-que-tu-vois-toi/>

Tristan Malavoy-Racine, "Frontières du reel," *Voir Montréal* (September 6, 2012).

<http://voir.ca/arts-visuels/2012/09/06/rc2012-galleries-et-musees-frontieres-du-reel/>

Claire Moeder, "Interactions: voix publiques," *ratsdeville* (October 5, 2012).

<http://ratsdeville.typepad.com/ratsdeville/2012/10/claire-moeder-sur-interactions.htm>

Adam Kelly Morton, "Campus galleries offer (free) opportunity to appreciate diverse art," *Campus Beat* (September 12, 2012).

<http://www.concordia.ca/now/campus-beat/concordia-community/20120912/campus-galleries-offer-free-opportunity-to-appreciate-diverse-art.php>

"Rentrée automnale (partie 8) "Interactions" @ Leonard & Bina Ellen," *Un show de mot'arts* (October 3, 2012). <http://www.unshowdemotarts.net/?p=5039>

ATTENDANCE:

Total: 2703 (including public programs)

Aug. 29, Vernissage: 120

Public Programs:

Aug. 30, Artist Talk with Hong-Kai Wang: 25

Dexterity Series:

A series of lectures, reflecting the variety of initiatives that are being generated by university art galleries across the country, will provide a context for the work done at the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery and a means to highlight the scope of the research that is being undertaken by these university galleries.

Sept. 13, *The Art of Seeing* with Nicole Knibb, McMaster Museum of Art: 53

Oct. 3, *Read Books* – Kathy Slade, Emily Carr University Press: 31

Oct. 18, *Community Art Lab* – Vicky Chainey Gagnon & Yaël Filipovic, Foreman Art Gallery of Bishop's University: 55

Oct. 24, *Artist Book of the Moment* – Michael Maranda, Art Gallery of York University: 47

DOCUMENTATION:

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